UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/677,993	10/03/2000	Curt J. Witte	9201-3	5689

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MYERS BIGEL SIBLEY & SAJOVEC
PO BOX 37428
RALEIGH, NC 27627

EXAMINER
HECK, MICHAEL C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3623	

DATE MAILED: 10/24/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/677,993	WITTE ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Michael C. Heck	3623	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>28 September 2005</u>.
2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.
3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1,3-14,16-23,25,26,28-39,41-48,50-61 and 63-69* is/are pending in the application.
    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6)☐ Claim(s) *1,3-7,10-14,16-23,25,26,28-32,35-39,41-48,50-54,57-61 and 63-69* is/are rejected.
7)☒ Claim(s) *8,9,33,34,55 and 56* is/are objected to.
8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.
    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:
      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   In view of the Appeal Brief filed on 28 September 2005, PROSECUTION IS

HEREBY REOPENED. A new ground of rejection is set forth below.

To avoid abandonment of the application, appellant must exercise one of the

following two options:

(1) file a reply under 37 CFR 1.111; or,

(2) request reinstatement of the appeal.

If reinstatement of the appeal is requested, such request must be accompanied

by a supplemental appeal brief, but no new amendments, affidavits (37 CFR 1.130,

1.131 or 1.132) or other evidence are permitted. See 37 CFR 1.193(b)(2).

2.   The following is a Non-Final Office Action in response to the Appeal Brief filed 28

September 2005. Claims 1, 3-14, 16-23, 25-26, 28-39, 41-48, 50-61 and 63-69 are

pending in this application and have been examined on the merits as discussed below.

Response to Arguments

3.   Applicant's arguments, see Applicant's Brief on Appeal under 37 C.F.R. §41.37,

p. 6-10, filed 28 September 2005, with respect to the rejection of claims 1, 3-7, 10, 12-

14, 16-23, 25-26, 28-32, 35, 37-39, 41-48, 50-54, 57, 59-61 and 63-69 under 35 U.S.C.

§103 have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been

withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground of rejection is made in

view of Business/Technology Editors (Business/Technology Editors, Webhire Links

Corporate Recruiting Desktops to Over 2,000 Job Posting Sites, Business Wire, New

York, March 2, 2000 [PROQUEST]) and Feldman (Feldman, Find What I Mean, Not

What I Say, Online: Publisher: Wilton, Vol. 24, No. 3, May/June 2000, p 49-56 [STN]).

The Examiner notes that the definition of Inference Engine (Microsoft Press, Computer

Dictionary, Third Edition, 1997, p. 248) is the processing portion of an expert system. It

matches input propositions with facts and rules contained in a knowledge base and then

derives a conclusion, on which the expert system then acts. Please see the 35 USC §

103 rejections below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as
> set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be
> patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious
> at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said
> subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention
> was made.

5. **Claims 1, 3-7, 10, 12-14, 16-23, 25-26, 28-32, 35, 37-39, 41-48, 50-54, 57, 59-**

61, and **63-69** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Business/Technology Editors (Business/Technology Editors, Webhire Links Corporate

Recruiting Desktops to Over 2,000 Job Posting Sites, Business Wire, New York, March

2, 2000 [PROQUEST]) in view of Feldman (Feldman, Find What I Mean, Not What I

Say, Online: Publisher: Wilton, Vol. 24, No. 3, May/June 2000, p 49-56 [STN]).

Business/Technology Editors disclose a method, system, and computer program

products for selecting a job post site to which a job opening description may be posted

by ranking job post sites based on one or more selection criteria comprising:

- **[Claim 1]** obtaining at least one job post site selection criterion (Business/Technology Editors, Para 4, Business/Technology Editors teaches an online tool that helps target jobs to the most appropriate online destination. Implicitly, a selection criterion is employed);

- selecting the job post site from the plurality of job post sites based on the ranking of the plurality of job post sites (Business/Technology Editors, Para 6, Business/Technology Editors teaches the online job site search tool helps recruiters target their jobs to the most appropriate career sites, professional organizations and job boards. Corporate recruiters indicate the type of position they are filling and quickly receive an online listing of the specific job sites within the service that are most likely to attract qualified candidates for those specific openings.).

Business/Technology Editors fail to teach automatically ranking a plurality of job post

sites based on the at least one job post site selection criterion, comprising: accessing a

fact table that contains data relevant to the at least one job post site selection criterion;

and using an inference engine to process the at least one job post site selection

criterion and the fact table to rank the plurality of job post sites based on the at least one

job post site selection criterion. Feldman teaches LexiQuest's LexiGuide, Oingo's web

search and Simpli.com's Simplifind all use embedded dictionaries of words and their

meanings to offer lists of alternatives to the user. Using an inference engine, such as

Cyc with its built in knowledge base of common sense knowledge, we can even draw

inferences. Combining NLP (Natural Language Processing) technique with other

technologies, we are beginning to solve the artificial intelligence bottleneck of

automatically extracting new knowledge in new subject areas so that we can build real

decision support systems and other advanced information tools. One intriguing

example of what we can expect later this year is a new ecommerce application from
solutions-united.com, which provides advanced NLP-based text mining and retrieval
middleware. This tool structures unstructured information, and it extracts meaning and
emotion as well. The results can easily be used by any ecommerce system to create a
relational database or to mine its data. LexiQuest already offers several linguistically-
based applications that provide a meaning-based layer on top of a search engine. In
addition to improving the query, however, LexiGuide analyzes the results found by the
search engine, and re-ranks the results using a kind of automatic "more like this", or
relevance feedback. The user interacts with LexiGuide in order to improve performance
still further (Para 21, 31, 33, 35 and 36). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary
skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to modify Business/Technology
Editors with the web inference engine and ranking capability of Feldman since
Business/Technology Editors teach that it is old and well known to use a computer via
the Internet to provide interactive solutions to help recruiters target jobs to the most
appropriate destinations (Para 1). Utilizing a search tool, i.e., an expert system, allows
users to efficiently identify desired information. Webhire is introducing an interactive job
site search tool to provide corporate recruiters with assistance in identifying the job sites
that are best suited to their particular job openings (Business/Technology Editors: Para
2). These new information systems are complex combinations of retrieval technologies,
built-in reference knowledge bases, and interactive tools. The result is very usable text
mining and retrieval systems. These tools will help users select what they need most
(Feldman: Para 4-5). Therefore, efficiently identifying desired information is

accomplished by using a search tool or expert system. The suggestion or motivation to

combine resides in the fact that both Business/Technology Editors and Feldman teach

search tools for use on the Internet. Feldman teaches various search tools to include

using an inference engine that allow for human interaction to improve performance,

therefore there is a reasonable expectation of success since both Business/Technology

Editors and Feldman are looking for the best results from the web search.   The

combination of Business/Technology Editors and Feldman teach or suggest all the

claim limitations as indicated above.

- [Claim 3] obtaining a geographic location criterion; obtaining a skill set criterion; and obtaining a job post site performance criterion that is indicative of a value of a job post site in acting as a source for candidates (Business/Technology Editors: Para 6, Business/Technology Editors teaches the online job site search tool helps recruiters target their jobs to the most appropriate career site. Corporate recruiters quickly receive an online listing of the specific job sites within the service that are most likely to attract qualified candidates. Job site searches can also be targeted regionally or focused on specific attributes, such as diversity candidates or college graduates.).

- [Claim 4] identifying job post sites of the plurality of job post sites that satisfy the geographic location criterion; ranking the identified job post sites that satisfy the geographic location criterion based on the job post site performance criterion to generate a geographic location and job post site performance ranked list of job post sites; identifying job post sites of the plurality of job post sites that satisfy the skill set criterion; and ranking the identified job post sites that satisfy the skill set criterion based on the job post site performance criterion to generate a skill set and job post site performance ranked list of job post sites (Business/Technology Editors: Para 6, Business/Technology Editors teaches the online job site search tool helps recruiters target their jobs to the most appropriate career site. Corporate recruiters quickly receive an online listing of the specific job sites within the service that are most likely to attract qualified candidates. Job site searches can also be targeted regionally or focused on specific attributes, such as diversity candidates or college graduates.).

- [Claim 5] accessing a geographic location fact table that contains data relevant to the geographic location criterion; accessing a job post site performance fact table that contains data relevant to the job post site performance criterion; using an inference engine to process the geographic location criterion and the geographic location fact table to identify the job post sites of the plurality of job post sites that satisfy the geographic location criterion; and using the inference engine to process the identified job post sites that satisfy the geographic location criterion, the job post site performance criterion, and the job post site performance fact table to rank the identified job post sites that satisfy the geographic location criterion based on the job post site performance criterion (Business/Technology Editors: Para 6, Business/Technology Editors teaches the online job site search tool helps recruiters target their jobs to the most appropriate career site. Corporate recruiters quickly receive an online listing of the specific job sites within the service that are most likely to attract qualified candidates. Job site searches can also be targeted regionally or focused on specific attributes, such as diversity candidates or college graduates. Inherently, a computer is used with access to a database.).

- [Claim 6] accessing a skill set fact table that contains data relevant to the skill set criterion; accessing a job post site performance fact table that contains data relevant to the job post site performance criterion; using an inference engine to process the skill set criterion and the skill set fact table to identify the job post sites of the plurality of job post sites that satisfy the skill set criterion; and using the inference engine to process the identified job post sites that satisfy the skill set criterion, the job post site performance criterion, and the job post site performance fact table to rank the identified job post sites that satisfy the skill set criterion based on the job post site performance criterion (Business/Technology Editors: Para 6, Business/Technology Editors teaches the online job site search tool helps recruiters target their jobs to the most appropriate career site. Corporate recruiters quickly receive an online listing of the specific job sites within the service that are most likely to attract qualified candidates. Job site searches can also be targeted regionally or focused on specific attributes, such as diversity candidates or college graduates. Inherently, a computer is used with access to a database.).

- [Claim 7] combining the geographic location and job post site performance ranked list of job post sites with the skill set and job post site performance ranked list of job post sites to generate a geographic location, skill set, and job post site performance ranked list of job post sites (Business/Technology Editors: Para 6, Business/Technology Editors teaches the online job site search tool helps recruiters target their jobs to the most appropriate career site. Corporate recruiters quickly receive an online listing of the specific job sites within the service that are most likely to attract qualified candidates. Job

site searches can also be targeted regionally or focused on specific attributes, such as diversity candidates or college graduates. Inherently, a computer is used with access to a database.).

- **[Claim 10]** obtaining at least one job post site selection criterion (Business/Technology Editors: Para 4, Business/Technology Editors teaches an online tool that helps target jobs to the most appropriate online destination. Implicitly, a selection criterion is employed);

- automatically ranking a plurality of job post sites based on the at least one job post site selection criterion, comprising: accessing a fact table that contains data relevant to the at least one job post site selection criterion (Business/Technology Editors, Para 6: Business/Technology Editors teaches the online job site search tool helps recruiters target their jobs to the most appropriate career sites. Feldman: Para 36, Feldman teaches LexiGuide analyzes the results found by the search engine, and re-ranks the results using a kind of automatic "more like this", or relevance feedback.); and

using an inference engine to process the at least one job post site selection criterion and the first fact table to rank the plurality of job post sites based on the at least one job post site selection criterion (Business/Technology Editors, Para 6: Business/Technology Editors teaches corporate recruiters indicate the type of position they are filling, for example, engineering or accounting, and quickly receive and online listing of the specific job sites within the service that are most likely to attract qualified candidates for those specific openings. Feldman: Para 31 and 36, Feldman teaches by using an inference engine, such as Cyc with its built in knowledge base of common sense knowledge, we can even draw inferences. LexiGuide analyzes the results found by the search engine, and re-ranks the results using a kind of automatic "more like this", or relevance feedback. The Examiner interprets the inference engine matches input propositions with facts and rules contained in a knowledge base and then derives a conclusion.).

- selecting at least one job post site from the plurality of job post sites based on the ranking of the plurality of job post sites (Business/Technology Editors: Para 6, Business/Technology Editors teaches the online job site search tool helps recruiters target their jobs to the most appropriate career sites. Corporate recruiters indicate the type of position they are filling and quickly receive an online listing of the specific job sites within the service that are most likely to attract qualified candidates for those specific openings.); and

- posting the job opening description to the selected at least one job post site (Business/Technology Editors: Para 5, Business/Technology Editors teaches

The corporate recruiters enter a job description once, and within just a few mouse clicks, send that job to any or all of the recruiting destinations.).

- [**Claim 12**] displaying the ranked plurality of job post sites to an end user (Business/Technology Editors: Para 6, Business/Technology Editors teaches the online job site search tool helps recruiters target their jobs to the most appropriate career site. Corporate recruiters indicate the type for position they are filling, for example, engineering or accounting, and quickly receive an online listing of the specific job sites within the service that are most likely to attract qualified candidates. Job site searches can also be targeted regionally or focused on specific attributes, such as diversity candidates or college graduates. Feldman: Para 36, Feldman teaches LexiGuide analyzes the results found by the search engine, and re-ranks the results using a kind of automatic "more like this", or relevance feedback.); and

- obtaining user input to select the at least one job post site from the ranked plurality of job post sites from the end user (Business/Technology Editors: Para 6, Business/Technology Editors teaches the online job site search tool helps recruiters target their jobs to the most appropriate career site. Corporate recruiters indicate the type for position they are filling, for example, engineering or accounting, and quickly receive an online listing of the specific job sites within the service that are most likely to attract qualified candidates. Job site searches can also be targeted regionally or focused on specific. attributes, such as diversity candidates or college graduates.).

- [**Claim 13**] selecting the at least one job post site from the plurality of job post sites based on the ranking of the plurality of job post sites independent of user input (Feldman: Para 4, 5 and 36, Feldman teaches these new information systems are complex combinations of retrieval technologies, built-in reference knowledge bases, and interactive tools. The result is very usable text mining and retrieval systems. These tools will help users select what they need most. LexiGuide analyzes the results found by the search engine, and re-ranks the results using a kind of automatic "more like this", or relevance feedback.).

- [**Claim 14**] converting the job opening description into a format compatible with the selected at least one job post site; and sending the converted job opening description to the at least one job post site (Business/Technology Editors, Para 5: Business/Technology Editors teaches The corporate recruiters enter a job description once, and within just a few mouse clicks, send that job to any or all of the recruiting destinations. Implicitly, the job opening is formatted to be compatible with the recruiting destination.).

- **[Claim 16]** obtaining a job post site performance criterion that is indicative of a value of a job post site in acting as a source for candidates; and wherein the at least one job post site selection criterion comprises: a geographic location criterion; and a skill set criterion (Business/Technology Editors: Para 6, Business/Technology Editors teaches the online job site search tool helps recruiters target their jobs to the most appropriate career site. Corporate recruiters quickly receive an online listing of the specific job sites within the service that are most likely to attract qualified candidates. Job site searches can also be targeted regionally or focused on specific attributes, such as diversity candidates or college graduates.).

- **[Claim 17]** identifying job post sites of the plurality of job post sites that satisfy the geographic location criterion; automatically ranking the identified job post sites that satisfy the geographic location criterion based on the job post site performance criterion to generate a geographic location and job post site performance ranked list of job post sites; identifying job post sites of the plurality of job post sites that satisfy the skill set criterion; and automatically ranking the identified job post sites that satisfy the skill set criterion based on the job post site performance criterion to generate a skill set and job post site performance ranked list of job post sites (Business/Technology Editors: Para 6, Business/Technology Editors teaches the online job site search tool helps recruiters target their jobs to the most appropriate career site. Corporate recruiters quickly receive an online listing of the specific job sites within the service that are most likely to attract qualified candidates. Job site searches can also be targeted regionally or focused on specific attributes, such as diversity candidates or college graduates.).

- **[Claim 18]** automatically ranking the geographic location and job post site performance ranked list of job post sites with the skill set and job post site performance ranked list of job post sites to generate a geographic location, skill set, and job post site performance ranked list of job post sites (Business/Technology Editors: Para 6, Business/Technology Editors teaches the online job site search tool helps recruiters target their jobs to the most appropriate career sites. Job site searches can be targeted regionally. Implicitly, the career sites are identified and ranked).

- **[Claim 19]** selecting the job post sites in the geographic location, skill set, and job post site performance ranked list of job post sites (Business/Technology Editors: Para 6, Business/Technology Editors teaches the online job site search tool helps recruiters target their jobs to the most appropriate career site. Corporate recruiters quickly receive an online listing of the specific job sites within the service that are most likely to attract qualified candidates. Job site searches can also be targeted regionally or focused on specific attributes, such as diversity candidates or college graduates.).

- **[Claim 20]** converting the job opening description into a respective format compatible with a respective one of the job post sites in the geographic location, skill set, and job post site performance ranked list of job post sites; and sending the respective converted job opening description to the respective one of the job post sites in the geographic location, skill set, and job post site performance ranked list of job post sites (Business/Technology Editors: Para 5, Business/Technology Editors teaches The corporate recruiters enter a job description once, and within just a few mouse clicks, send that job to any or all of the recruiting destinations. Implicitly, the job opening is formatted to be compatible with the recruiting destination.).

- **[Claim 21]** displaying the geographic location, skill set, and job post site performance ranked list of job post sites to an end user (Business/Technology Editors: Para 6, Business/Technology Editors teaches the online job site search tool helps recruiters target their jobs to the most appropriate career site. Corporate recruiters indicate the type for position they are filling, for example, engineering or accounting, and quickly receive an online listing of the specific job sites within the service that are most likely to attract qualified candidates. Job site searches can also be targeted regionally or focused on specific attributes, such as diversity candidates or college graduates. Feldman: Para 4, 5 and 36, Feldman teaches these new information systems are complex combinations of retrieval technologies, built-in reference knowledge bases, and interactive tools. The result is very usable text mining and retrieval systems. These tools will help users select what they need most. LexiGuide analyzes the results found by the search engine, and re-ranks the results using a kind of automatic "more like this", or relevance feedback.).

- obtaining user input to select the at least one job post site for the geographic location, skill set, and job post site performance tanked list of job post sites fro the end user (Business/Technology Editors: Para 6, Business/Technology Editors teaches the online job site search tool helps recruiters target their jobs to the most appropriate career site. Corporate recruiters indicate the type for position they are filling, for example, engineering or accounting, and quickly receive an online listing of the specific job sites within the service that are most likely to attract qualified candidates. Job site searches can also be targeted regionally or focused on specific attributes, such as diversity candidates or college graduates.).

- **[Claim 22]** converting the job opening description into a format compatible with the at least one job post site from the geographic location, skill set, and job post site performance ranked list of job post sites obtained from the end user; and sending the converted job opening description to the at least one

job post site from the geographic location, skill set, and job post site performance ranked list of job post sites obtained from the end user (Business/Technology Editors: Para 5, Business/Technology Editors teaches The corporate recruiters enter a job description once, and within just a few mouse clicks, send that job to any or all of the recruiting destinations. Implicitly, the job opening is formatted to be compatible with the recruiting destination.).

Claims 23, 25, 26, 28-32, 35, 37-39, 41-48, 50-54, 57, 59-61, and **63-69** substantially recites the same limitations as that of claims 1, 3-7, 10, 12-14, and 16-22 with the distinction of the recited method being a system and a computer program product. Hence the same rejection for claims 1, 3-7, 10, 12-14, and 16-22 as applied above applies to claims 23, 25, 26, 28-32, 35, 37-39, 41-48, 50-54, 57, 59-61, and 63-69.

6.   **Claims 11, 36** and **58** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Business/Technology Editors (Business/Technology Editors, Webhire Links Corporate Recruiting Desktops to Over 2,000 Job Posting Sites, Business Wire, New York, March 2, 2000 [PROQUEST]) in view of Sundaresan (U.S. Patent 6,681,223). As to **Claim 11**, Business/Technology Editors disclose a method, system, and computer program products for selecting a job post site to which a job opening description may be posted by ranking job post sites based on one or more selection criteria but fail to teach the job opening description comprises an extensible markup language (XML) data stream. Sundaresan teaches a profile matching system and method that matches the path extension (i.e. profile matching) in a structured or semi-structured document, such as an XML document (e.g., a resume with heading), to an indexed resource (i.e., an index). The GCS (Grand Central Station technology) gatherer collects company

submitted and crawled job postings, or simply scans newspapers and company web sites to collect job postings. The job postings may also be in HTML, text, or any other form. The GCS recognizer converts these to a common XML form with tags such as job title, salary, company name, location, job description, requirements, etc. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to use an extensible markup language (XML) data stream of Sundaresan with the teachings of the Business/Technology Editors because the Business/Technology Editors teach integrated job posting where corporate recruiters enter a job description once, and with just a few mouse clicks, send that job to any or all of the over two thousand recruiting destinations now available (Para 5). Reducing project cycle time translates to opportunities to realize quicker benefits of decisions. Being able to efficiently interchange data from one business to another using XML reduces the time it takes to process the data, therefore, reducing the project cycle time and allowing for quicker benefits from the transaction.

Claims **36** and **58** substantially recites the same limitations as that of claim 11 with the distinction of the recited method being a system and a computer program product. Hence the same rejection for claim 11 as applied above applies to claims 36 and 58.

Allowable Subject Matter

7.   Claims **8, 9, 33, 34, 55, and 56** are objected to as being dependent upon a

rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all

of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

Examiner should be directed to Michael C. Heck whose telephone number is (571) 272-

6730. The Examiner can normally be reached Monday thru Friday between the hours

of 8:30am - 4:30pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful,

the examiner's supervisor, Tariq R. Hafiz can be reached on (571) 273-6729.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

> **Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office**
> **P.O. Box 1450**
> **Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450**

Or faxed to:

(571) 273-8300   [Official communications; including After Final
communications labeled "**Box AF**"]

(571) 273-6730   [Informal/Draft communication, labeled "**PROPOSED**" or
"**DRAFT**"]

mch
14 October 2005

TARIQ R. HAFIZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600